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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION WOMEN IN NUMISMATICS

winning ways

An Overveiw of Mexican Numismatics

By Don Bailey, NLG

Teaser: Women in Power

By Prue Fitts

WIN

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Feature Articles
Articles, photos and features pertaining in the numismatic industry are welcome and are subject to editorial discretion and editing.

New Publication Deadline Dates:
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June 1.....August issue
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Cindy Grellman

THE PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Dear WIN Members,

It is now early November, and we're finally getting some nice autumn weather here in Florida. What that actually means is that the high is around 80 degrees, rather than in the high 90's. And, the humidity has dropped a little. That sounds about perfect to me for coin shows, Thanksgiving, and tennis!

I enjoyed seeing many of you at the "new" silver dollar show in St. Louis last month. Before leaving I heard the show was a "go" for next year, also. The venue is nice and the staff was always friendly and helpful. It appeared that a good time was had by all.

My next coin show is the 2003 FUN show. I miss being an attendee because I don't have a chance to hear any of the wonderful educational speakers, and the only club meeting I attend is WIN's. Speaking of which, WIN will have a meeting on Saturday, January 11th, at 8:00 AM. If you're in the Orlando area, please join us! The January meeting is always exciting because we draw the name of the winner for the scholarship to the ANA summer conference. Postcards were mailed to all of you with details in November. This is a wonderful opportunity, and I hope that many of you took advantage of the offer.

My favorite time of year is rapidly approaching a time for counting our blessings. And, I'm a nut for the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. I have fond childhood memories of watching the parade, feeling the electricity in the air of the approaching holiday season, and smelling the turkey roasting in the oven. I hope you all have something that triggers your inner child occasionally and takes you to fond memories of your past. Most of all, I hope you all have many, many blessings to count and celebrate. I hope to see you all in January. Until then, may peace and happiness fill your lives.

Cindy

WIN Meeting

Place: F.U.N. Convention
Date: January 11, 2003
Speaker: Beth Deisher
Subject: To Be Announced
Time: 8:00 AM

Join us for coffee and rolls

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FEATURES

Teaser: **Women in Power**--By Prue Fitts..... Page 4
My Experience at the ANA Summer Seminar--By Donna Wasmer..... Page 6
My First Trip to the ANA Summer Seminar--By Carrie Best..... Page 9
An Overview of Mexican Numismatics By--Don Bailey..... Page 11
New York, New York--By Rita Jene Sledz..... Page 13
Halperin on Coins..... Page 14

DEPARTMENTS

Board of Directors.....Page 2
The President's Message..... Page 2
The Table of Contents.....Page 3
Editors Notebook..... Page 5
From the Secretary's Desk.....Page 10
(ANA Show Minutes)
WIN Membership Application.....Page 15
WIN Advertising Rates.....Page 15

HAPPENINGS AT A.N.A. in New York

Left: WIN members Mark Lighterman, Don Kagin, Diane Piret, and Jerry Morgan being presented The Glenn Smedley Memorial Award by John Wilson, ANA Presidemt
Right: Cindy Grellman, WIN president receiving the ANA Exemplary Service Award

Left: Jim Best, WIN editor, giving Jerry Morgan WIN's Literary Award for 2002 for his article in Winning Ways, "Pennies from Heaven"
Right: Patti Finner giving Kathy Rowe her Glenn Smedley Memorial Award

More photos on page 5

Teaser: Women in Power

By

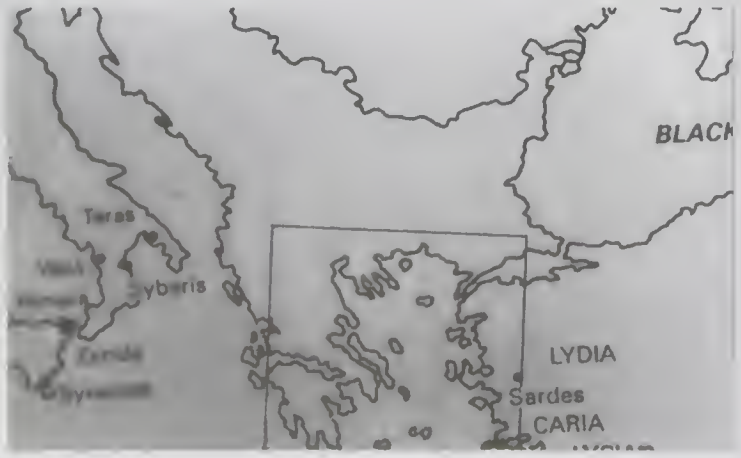
Prue Fitts

Women in Power - not such a new thing today as the Glass Ceiling becomes more porous. Being smaller and less physically robust, how did Women first begin to get and exercise power - and how do we know about it? One of the clues is coinage. There are many women who appear on coinage that were simply political appendages to their husbands - but there are more than you might expect who were real action figures seizing and wielding power. Some even are portrayed "in your face" on coinage or in art.

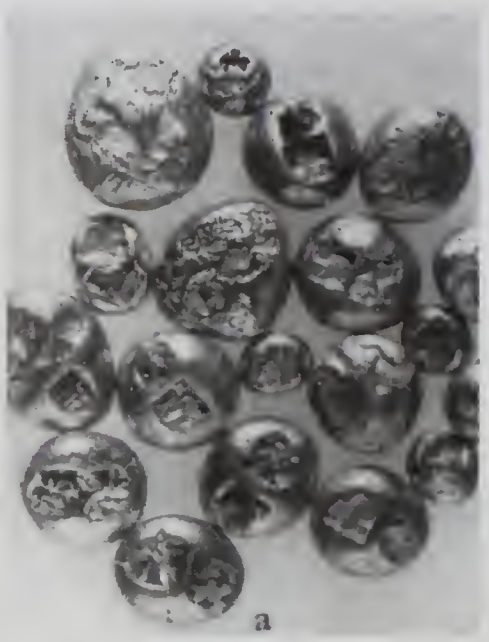
The first representation of Woman that we know of is the Willenburg **Venus**, a stone figure from 25,000 BC (you read that right - **BC**), discovered in what is now Austria.

No poster image for Weight Watchers, she leaves no doubt of the ultimate power of women. Reproduction. For millennia, this process was shrouded in mystery - there was no connection with the role of the male. Not until very late in our history when men as Doctors were judged the best facilitators at birthings, women were not only the producers of life, but also were the sole repository of the mysterious process. We do not know the exact role of the 7-pound statue, but she was certainly important.

Coins were not minted until the mid 7th C BC by the Lydians. Made of the naturally occurring mixture of gold and silver called *electrum*, we call these pieces *staters*.



Earliest ones were unmarked lumps which were of equivalent weight, telling us this was not an accidental occurrence. Others were incused with the very simplest of designs. Within a century, there were possibly a half dozen or so mints, requiring identification. Animal symbols were added to one side with the incused mark on the other.



One of the earliest representations of "woman" on coinage was the Goddess **Athena**. The Goddess of War as well as the patron saint of Athens, her birth was one of the more creative legends. Zeus, the God of all Gods, was married to **Hera,** but his promiscuity was legion (one way to explain all those gods and goddess!)

He impregnated a mortal and then swallowed her to keep his wife from finding out. It's not nice to fool Hera. Zeus developed a headache that was the migraine of all times. Hephaestus, God of Fire and the Iron Smith, offered to cut a wedge in Zeus' head to relieve the pressure. Imagine his and everyone else's surprise when Athena leapt out, full-blown and grown and no doubt as grateful as he to be free. A lady to be reckoned with. Goddess of War - she is most often seen helmeted.

(continued on page 7)

EDITORS NOTEBOOK

JIM BEST, Editor

Well the New Year is off to a great start and I hope that the year 2003 will bring you great enjoyment in whatever your endeavor may be. Hopefully the numismatic field will see many gains and that your desire to better your collection will be a happy time.

After attending an ANA seminar last summer, I have the greatest respect for all of the instructors and staff of the ANA. Their wealth of knowledge is above reproach and we should all be proud that we have such a fine organization to serve our numismatic needs. If you have never attended one of these seminars, I encourage each of you to take the time to enjoy this great numismatic experience. Applying for a WIN scholarship is an excellent opportunity for you to have an experience you will cherish, so send in your letter of intent by the December deadline.

Once again I am looking for articles for ***Winning Ways***. I know there are many members who have a numismatic story to tell and what better way than writing a short article for **YOUR** magazine, so give it some thought. The next DEADLINE is February 1.

HAVE A GREAT SPRING - SEE YOU AT CENTRAL STATES

Left: Cindy and Guest Speaker Ray Dillard
Right: Ray Dillard, guest speaker
Lower Left: Anthony Swiatek receiving the Farran Zerbe Award
Lower Right: Editor, Jim Best with Tony Perkins from Good Morning America

MY EXPERIENCE AT ANA SUMMER SEMINAR

By Donna L. Wasmer

I wish to thank WIN for selecting me as one of the winners of the ANA Summer Seminar Scholarship. It was very rewarding, interesting and a great experience for me. My husband, Kermit, also went with me. He had attended the Summer Seminar in 1993, and encouraged me to attend, knowing that I would enjoy it very much. We stayed at a wonderful Bed and Breakfast - Room at the Inn. The accommodations were great and the breakfasts were fantastic.

On Saturday we attended the Colorado State Coin Show held at the City Auditorium. It appeared to have a good attendance, and we enjoyed seeing several dealers that we had known from other shows. Saturday night we enjoyed the Doe Brothers Concert, a group of talented musicians and well known in the numismatist field.

Upon arrival to get registered, we saw Ed Rochette, Rachel Irish, Rudy Baer in the parking lot of ANA headquarters, who we had known from other conferences and shows.

Sunday at 1:00pm we began our classes. I selected the class, "Adventures in Numismatics" taught by Brian Fanton. I selected this class because I did not have much knowledge on coins, since I collect National Bank Notes for Iroquois County, Illinois. Also, I have known Brian from various shows. During our class we saw the video of "History in Your Hands" narrated by James Earl Jones. It was very informational. We also saw a video "The Money Store", which was also very informative. We then toured the ANA Museum. This was absolutely a great experience. There is so much knowledge to be gained in going through the museum.

Monday morning we learned the descriptive terms for the obverse and reverse of the coins. Of course, we then had a couple "open book" quizzes. After lunch at Worner Center we were joined by Sandy Hill from ANA, our tour guide, who took us to the United States Olympic Complex, the Fire History Museum and Memorial Park.

Monday evening we attended the "Bull Session" - "How to Detect Artificial Toning" given by Bob Campbell. I found this to be very interesting as Bob showed slides on the artificial and the natural toning. I found it easier to tell the difference in the slides than on the real coin. We then attended the session - "National Bank Note Collectors and Dealers I have Known" by Peter Huntoon. I found this very interesting, humorous and informational. Earlier that day I had the honor to meet Peter.

Tuesday morning we were back in class with Brian. We reviewed the descriptive terms for coins, and then went on to learn that "Knowledge is the Key" - this includes History - Lore; Varieties - Romance; Sleepers - Mystery; Coin Cycles - Pride; Design - Enjoyment and/or Investment. He then touched on grading which we will learn more about. After lunch at Worner Center, Sandy and her six "students" departed again for a tour of the Pioneers Museum and then a stop for some "ice cream treats" before returning back to headquarters. Tuesday night we attended the Art of Engraving Students Exhibit and 10th Anniversary Reception. That was a very interesting exhibit presented by very talented students.

Wednesday morning we got into serious grading. We learned grading is an art-not a science. We received information on the ANA grading guide and rarity codes. We also were shown different ways to determine if the coin is counterfeit. We then began to view different coins and started grading. Following lunch, Sandy and the group toured the Van Briggle Pottery Factory and also toured the Chocolate Factory. Both were very interesting tours, of course purchases were made at both places. Wednesday night we attended the lively youth auction - a great experience for the young and the "young at heart".

On Thursday we finished our grading and then were presented our displomas. Instead of having lunch at Worner Hall, we were taken to Adams Mountain Café in Manitou Springs. The food was wonderful. We then went to Old Colorado City History Center where we took a horse and carriage ride around the area. We then toured the museum. We then did some walking and visiting several shops before returning to headquarters. On Thursday night we attended the Graduation Reception and Banquet.

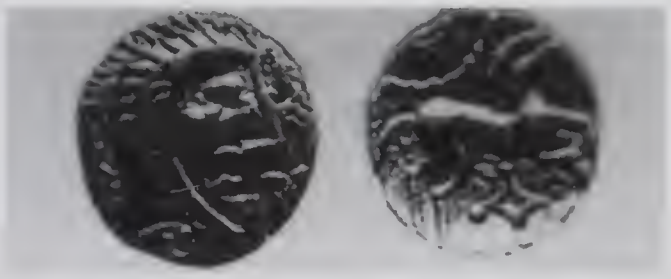
This has been a wonderful experience and I feel I have gained knowledge in grading and numismatics in gerneral. As my husband has been a coin collector for over fifty years, I now have been able to appreciate what he is talking about and have gained valuable information. I would encourage anyone to attend the Summer Seminar even if you aren't an "avid" collector. You will learn so much and make many friends and renew friendships. I had the opportunity of becoming friends with our group of six women: Leona, Loretta, Clare, Marion and Ruthann and our "Tour Guide", Sandy. Also, thanks to a great instructor who put up with 6 women - Brian Fanton.

Again, Thanks WIN and ANA for an experience I will never forget.

Teaser: Women in Power

(continued from page 4)

A real warrior, no goddess or myth was **Boudicca**. She was Queen of the Iceni (Norfolk, Suffolk and part of Cambridge) - the last Celtic tribe to be independent of Roman domination in the first century AD. Her husband, Prasutagus, an autonomous prince under Rome willed his kingdom to his daughters, having no male heirs. One source tells us that he included Nero in the mix, hoping no doubt for Rome's protection. Instead, taxes and conscriptions increased, and concessions from earlier years were revoked. We do not know whether Rome chose this time to annex Iceni believing that the rulers were too weak or inexperienced to resist, but we do know that the pillage and plunder were horrific. The women were raped - even the two reigning daughters. Their mother, Boudicca[1], waited until the Roman governor and his troops were absent to make her move; then rallied a huge force in Britain to rebellion.



Marching at the head of her troops, she burned Colchester, London, and St Albans killing more than 70,000 Romans and almost annihilating the 9th Legion. In time, however, sheer Roman numbers prevailed and she and the rebellion were defeated in 61 AD.

There are many kinds of power. There has always been "power" - overt or covert behind the Throne be it a stone, wood, or thatch chair. The woman who changed the shape of Religion in the Roman World, **Helena**, had a familial connection with the Emperor.

The mother of Constantine the Great, she was dumped by his father Constantius, early on. There is no doubt she had a close relationship with her son and probably talked at length with him about her new Religion, Christianity. He allegedly had his own epiphany[2] at what is now known as the Grotta Rossa about 8 miles north-east of Rome just before the battle to decide who would be the absolute master of all Europe - from the Atlantic to the Adriatic. With this talisman on all his soldiers' shields, he won the prize. But it was Mom's pilgrimage to Jerusalem when she was in her 80's when she found a piece of the True Cross that was the capstone. She sent this relic which was be placed in a cupola above the four triumphal arches of the First Milestone in the new capital, Constantinople in 333 AD, as its penultimate treasure.

Cleopatra VII was the daughter, sister and wife (sister-wife) of Pharaohs. She seized the throne for herself from her brother, but realized she needed the power of Rome to keep it. We all know how she got the protection and affection of two of Rome's powerful leaders but did you know: she was an incredibly able administrator; she spoke seven languages and was the first ruler to learn the native tongue of the Egyptians (she was Greek); and that the famous retreat from Actium may have been planned? Not too many women would age themselves deliberately - but she did on coinage to portray "wisdom" - visual propaganda.

And what about Elizabeth the First, Catherine of Russia, Joan of Arc, Eleanor of Aquitaine, Pope Joan?

There are many ways to influence and be influenced by power. I hope this teaser will encourage you to join me at the ANA summer session for *Women in Power in Coinage and in Art* in Colorado Springs 2003. Men as well as women are encouraged to be part of this sometimes non-traditional walk through coins, art and history. More information will be available as the year goes on.

1--Silver unit, this is the closest portrayal attributed to Queen Boudicca with a horse on the reverse. #434 from Coins of England and the United Kingdom, 37th edition from Spink 2002.

2--Seeing the Christian symbol, the first two Greek letters of Christ, the Chi-Rho in the sky, he ordered his men to copy the Christian symbol on their shields the night before battle. He won the battle and became a Christian. He was not, however, baptized until he was on his deathbed - a convenient time to be forgiven for all his sins.

W.I.N. Scholarship Award

If you would like to apply for WIN's scholarship award to the ANA summer conference, now is the time! Deadline for applications is the second week of December. If you want to apply, please send a letter to the editor stating why you want to attend the conference. Also send a signed and dated disclaimer that you will not hold WIN responsible for loss or injury while attending or traveling to or from the conference.

WIN pays airfare up to $300, tuition, and dormitory room and board for a double occupancy room. You are eligible if your WIN dues are paid and you have not won a scholarship in the last 5 years. The winning name will be drawn at the WIN meeting in conjunction with the FUN show in Orlando every January. You do not need to be present to win. We look forward to receiving your application SOON!!

Coin Trivia

1. What was the first commemorative coin struck at the Denver Mint?

2. What Federal Reserve Bank services Alaska and Hawaii?

3. Is Paper money printed at the U. S. Mint?

4. What was the relationship of S.H. & H. Chapman?

5. What was the second Mint to strike U.S. cents?

6. The Kruggerand is a denomination used by what country?

7. What denomination is assigned to a coin called a "slug"?

(answers on page 13)

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MY FIRST TRIP TO THE ANA SUMMER SEMINAR

By Carrie Best

Why would I like to win the WIN's Scholarship trip to the ANA Summer Seminar, is because I would like to learn more about numismatics. There has not a day gone by since I got into coin collecting that I have not learned something new about numismatics, and I would like to continue learning. I got into coins when my husband and I decided to buy an existing stamp shop and later turned it into a coin business. I, however, do collect on the side and would like to educate myself more on grading and authenicating of U.S. Coins. We have since sold that business, and I now work for another person buying and selling coins. I like U.S. coins best of all and I work with all types and grades of U.S. coins. I feel it would beneift myself and my employer if I knew more about grading of these coins and being able to tell if the coins I buy are authentic or counterfiet or copies.

I have heard that the ANA Summer seminars are not only about taking a course, but also learning information from other students as well. I would like to learn as much as I possibly can for a week in Colorado Springs this coming Summer. I would also like to take time and check out the ANA Library and see some of the wonderful literature there is to be found on coins and the subjects I am interested in. This is why I would like to attend the ANA Summer Seminar.

The above is the letter I wrote when I entered the contest to win a trip to the ANA Summer Seminar. I did win and I did attend the second session of the Seminar this past July. One of the best weeks in numismatics for me was spent at the ANA Summer Seminar. Thanks to the WIN organization for giving me this scholarship so that I was able to attend the class on Early Coppers. I have bought and sold half cents and large cents for the past 25 years and was not aware that there were so many different varieties until attending this class. **Steve Carr** and **Doug Bird** gave to me so much of their knowledge that it was a lot to learn in 5 days time. I don't know how they could teach our class of 8 so much in such a short time, but they did. I learned a lot from other classmates as well. I will treasure the week I spent in Colorado Springs forever. The ANA Summer Seminar is very well organized and anyone who wants to learn more about numismatics should attend any one of these classes. I hope to return to learn more by taking some of the other classes. (They are considering having an advanced class on Early Coppers one of these times). That's one I might consider, although I would like to take the grading and authentication class, also.

I have bought several of the books that were recommended in class to help me further my education. I've not had much spare time to practice what I learned and it takes lots of practice to be able to attribute the different half cents and large cents. I hope to spend some time in the near future trying to use the information I learned in class.

My experience in Colorado Springs is one I will not forget... all of the staff at ANA were very helpful and I did get to spend a little time in the Library. Next visit out there will be more enjoyable, as it will not be my first time, and I will know what to do, and I will spend more time at the evening get togethers and hopefully more time in the library. Thanks again WIN for a wonderfully Numismatic Experience.

Students of the Copper Coinage Class

Donna Wasmer and Carrie Best

From the Secretary's Desk

WIN meeting
Saturday, August 3, 2002
Marriott Marquis Hotel
Herald Room -- 7th Floor
ANA Annual Convention
New York, New York

Meeting opened at 8:10 A. M. by President Cindy Grellman with 16 members in attendance.

Coffee, pastries and bagels on hand for all to enjoy and we sure did enjoy.

Introductions were made and Winning Ways Journals were distributed. Treasurer's report read and accepted. Suggestions to move our meetings to Friday mornings rather than Saturday mornings under consideration.

Editor Jim Best thanked those who sent in articles and reminded us of deadlines for printing. Jim always needs articles for the journal so keep sending them in for current or future issues. All changes of address should also be sent to him. The deadline for scholarship requests is December 15th and should be sent to him separately.

Since the Long Beach show is difficult for officers living in the Midwest and Eastern states to attend it is a problem, but hopefully a solution can be found.

50/50 drawing won by Phil Carrigan with $272 for winner and $272 for the treasury.

By-Laws are to be revised with mostly cosmetic changes being made.

Jim Best presented the Literary Award for best article of 2001 to Jerry Morgan for his article "Pennies From Heaven".

Prue Fitts announced that she will conduct a seminar in Colorado Springs, for the summer 2003 session titled "Women in Power and Art".

Don Charters introduced our guest speaker Ray Dillard who spoke to us on the joys of collecting elongateds. The first elongateds were made in 1893 at the Columbian Exposition. Ray began his own elongateds in 1984. From the Expo, there was a cent elongated at the Pike Midway called simply "The Pike" and Ray proudly showed us the two he has, not only valuable but really interesting pieces. The ANA had a machine but it broke down frequently so Ray offered to bring his machine to the shows. Ray claims to hold the most extensive collection which includes his own designs. Yesterdays coins are 1893 through 1960 and elongateds of today include 1960 through the present time. With hundreds of machines located thoughout the world one just can't keep up. Dottie Dow was founder of The Elongated Collectors organization in 1966. She is still around but is not active in the hobby. Ray has a published catalog "Dillards Elongated Coins". You can order one for $10 which includes S & H from Ray Dillard, PO Box 161, Fenton, Michigan 48430. Ray conducted an Honest John game with us and gave out prizes to winners. It really was a fun meeting.

Cindy presented Ray our Guest Speaker Award and as we left we all got goodie bags of elongateds. Ray you are a specialist in your field and as a speaker you never lost our attention for even a moment. We at WIN don't want you to Stretch your valuable time but maybe in the future you could **SMOOSH** your time a little so that you could just **ROLL** by our meeting and honor us with another presentation. Thank you Ray.....fine job!!!!!

Meeting closed at 9:15 A. M.

See you at the F U. N. show in Orlando -- January 2003!!!!!

Note: Since his guest appearance, Ray had his brief case stolen at the New York Show and the two "Pike" cents were in the brief case. No recovery has been made to date. There is a reward so be on the look out.....

Rita Jene Sledz
Secretary

An Overveiw of Mexican Numismatics

By Don Bailey, NLG

The history of any country can be viewed from a study of its' coinage. Mexico is no exception, and due to its volatile history it has generated a wide variety of coinage..

Mexico issued the first coinage of the Americas in 1536. Mexican coins through out the years continued to be a part of the United State's commerce with Mexican coins being legal tender in the States until 1857 by statue. They ceased to be legal tender but continued to circulate in the rural areas. In 1818 the only Mexican coin issued under Spanish rule within the United States was what is known as the "Texas Jolla". These were struck at San Fernando de Bexar (San Antonio, Texas) by Jose Antonio de la Garza.

Prior to the coinage of 1536 various media of exchange existed within Mexico. These were to name just a few; Cacao beans, strings of colored shells, Patolquechtli, small squares of woven cotton material, gold filled quills, and Tajaderas, or what we know as Aztec Hoe money, which are "T" shaped copper in varying sizes which do show up from time to time.

The Carlos and Juana coinage series, the first coinage of the Americas covers the period from 1536-1572. These coins come in copper and silver, with denominations of Two and four Maravedies in copper, and 1/2, one, two, three and four Reales in silver. These are highly collectible on today's market.

The Carlos and Johanna coinage was followed by the "Cob Coinage". These were issued from approximately 1580 to 1732 under six different Spanish rulers from Philip II to Luis I. These cobs, get their name from the Spanish term "Cabo de barra", or "end of the bar". They were as their name implies, cut from bars of silver, then clipped to the required weight, then heated and hand stamped with punched dies. This is why some are so crude, and a good portion of the design is missing. There are both gold and silver coins struck in this series. One can find these coins in very irregular shapes from time to time, and on the rare occasion find circular shaped examples of these coins that are called "Royal" strikes, which are very rare.

The next series would be what is called "Milled Coinage", so called as it was minted on a screw press rather the hand stamping as in the cob coinage. These milled coins were issued from 1732 through 1771 in the "Pillar" series, and 1772 through 1821, in the "Bust or Portrait" series under five Spanish rulers, Philip V to Ferdinand VII. Coinage can be found in bronze, silver and gold. The "Milled Coinage" is very interesting from both an historical and numismatic viewpoint as some of the coins from this series circulated as legal tender in the early days of our country. These milled coins along with their predecessors the Cob coinage, as "Pieces of Eight" can be put into the romantic visions of Captain Kidd, Black Beard and other pirates. The sunken treasure as found on the 1715 fleet, the Plate fleet, the Conception, and of course the Atocha, as well as other shipwrecks also fit into this vision of romantic days past.

The next period of coinage is of the War of Independence. This is the period during Mexico's fight to obtain independence from Spanish rule led by the heroic Father Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla, with his September 16, 1810 call of liberty "Viva Mexico, Viva Independence, and Viva the Virgin of Guadalupe". This period brings many numismatic oddities, cast coinage, coinage counter stamped, and double counter stamped by both the royalist and insurgent sides on the conflict. The first coinage of this period was issued in 1810, and the last was issued in 1822. There currently is fresh research being done on this period that will shed new light on this violent period of Mexico's history.

The end of the War of Independence brought Mexico the short-lived Empire of Augustin de Iturbide from 1822 and 1823. This period of Mexico's history resulted in coinage of copper, silver, gold, and the first paper money of Mexico.

(continued on page 12)

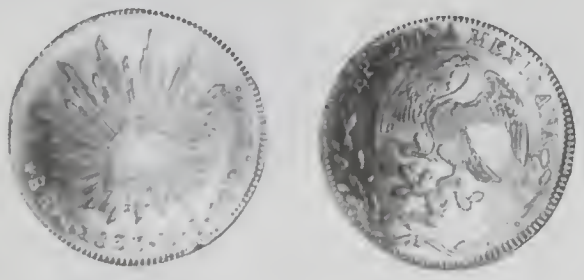
An Overveiw of Mexican Numismatics

(Continued from page 11)

The end of the War of Independence brought Mexico the short-lived Empire of Augustin de Iturbide from 1822 and 1823. This period of Mexico's history resulted in coinage of copper, silver, gold, and the first paper money of Mexico.

After the abdication of Iturbide, Mexico became a Republic. This Republic coinage was issued in the period of 1823 through 1897 in denominations of Reales and Escudos. From 1863 on, the decimal denominations of Centavos and Pesos were used. There was a brief period of Republic decimals, and then the French Intervention of 1863 through 1867, which brought us imperial coinage under Emperor Maximilian for 1864-1867.

This Republic period brought the numismatic field a very wide choice of collecting interests. You have some fairly common coins that can be obtained at a reasonable price, and then you have some very rare pieces. It all depends on your interest and the depth of your pockets. Within this period are fields all their own. The State and federal issues of 1824 through 1867 were all of real denomination and of copper and brass and is a widely collected area. These copper, and brass coinages from the state mints were authorized by the federal government but brought to a halt because of the proliferation of these copper coins. The decimal coinage of the Republic of Mexico had a brief start in 1863 with one, five, and ten centavo coins. This series was interrupted by the Maximilian era. This brief period on another Emperor of Mexico lasted only a few years from 1863 to 1867, but brought the numismatic field in addition to the copper, silver, and gold coins, many other areas such as decorations, documents, and related matter. This area holds a lot of romantic fascination not only to this columnist but to many others as well.



After the execution of Maximilian in June 1867 by Benito Juarez, the Republic coinage was again issued. Even though the French controlled some of the branch mints, coinage of the Republic design are known to have been struck during the French occupation of the mints.

The first decimal coinage following Maximilian's execution was issued in 1867. The decimal coinage continued until the coinage reform of 1905, and the Liberty cap peso continued into 1909. The Republic decimal series like the Republic Real series offers many avenues of approach to collecting. There is bronze, silver and gold coinage, many styles and possibilities that are only limited by the collectors imagination, and of course his checkbook.

The coinage reform of 1905 brought many numismatic changes, the gold standard was introduced, all the branch mints were closed, and "Estados Unidos Mexicanos" replaced the "Republic of Mexico" on the coinage. After this reform all of the coinage was struck at the Mexico City mint, except for a few rare occasions when some were struck outside of the country. This 20th Century or Modern as it is known by, is a widely collected area. In the 1960s heyday almost everyone was collecting modern type sets, and even today these sets still turn up on the market. They all bear the famous mintmark of Mo. Today's coinage is struck at the newer mint at Potosi, that uses the Mo mintmark as this has meant the Mexico Mint, not the Mexico City mint since the 1905 reform.

The one period that has been a widely collected and an interesting period is the Mexican Revolution of 1910 through 1917. This violent period of turmoil within Mexico brought the numismatic field many wonderful coins and paper money, and other collectibles such as decorations, medals, and postcards just to name a few. Most collectors of this period are very serious and they actively pursue the rarities. A lot of research has been done in this area, and the numismatic information is somewhat easier to obtain than in some other areas.

67) GB-84 Six-Star Muera Huerta Peso 1914 CHOICE XF-AU, completely free of the metal flaws nearly always seen on this type; see for instance the flaws on the reverse of the GB photo coin. A truly exceptional example of the classic Mexican Revolutionary rarity, ex Dr Retana collection, plate coin for book, El Arte de la Platería Mexicana, 500 Años. Weight 22.49gm. This is a very important coin, nearly impossible to find without metal flaws. ($4000-4500)

In Mexican numismatics another area that is widely collected, both here and within Mexico is paper Money. This area of Mexican numismatics has almost as much of a variety as does the coinage. There are some very rare bank notes.

Other areas of interest are the medals of Mexico, both proclamation and modern medals. Some research information is available and more is currently being worked on.

There were a large number of tokens used within Mexico as money throughout the history of Mexico. There are some very interesting issues and as in all other areas there are avid collectors. You also have Stocks and Bonds and documents that are actively sought after as well. The documents are historically significant as they tell the history of that period as it happened and not tainted by the passing years.

This brings us to the end of this brief overview of the many areas that one can pursue within Mexican numismatics, and it is hoped that that has wetted your interest in some area, and that you will look into starting or expanding your collecting interests in one of these fields. I would like to leave you with a few worlds of advice. Buy the book first, if you can find it. Talk with the Mexican collectors or dealers that you meet from time to time, select an area that interests you, study and learn the history of that period, as it will aid you in understanding the coinage, and the reasons behind the coinage. Remember the history of a country can be told through its coinage.

For those of you who weren't there, the ANA World's Fair of Money Show was held in New York City at the Marriott Marquis Hotel on floors five, six, and seven.

New York, New York
a wonderful town...
elevators packed.. escalator broke down
people up beat never wearing a frown.
New York - New York
it's a wonderful town.

Up to seven and down to five
back to six with your motor in drive.
Back to seven for some programs in stock
due for a luncheon -- keep your eye on the clock.

Twilight cruise 'neath a clear starry sky
Lady Liberty with her torch held high.
Empire State Building lit in red, white, and blue
past Ellis Island where so many came through.
Teary eyes as ground zero we passed..
forever and ever will those memories last.

Taxis taxis everywhere
what e're the street you may be on
and Times Square ablaze in neon.

A mish mash of fashion attacks your eyes
but the glamorist ensemble seen,
a sunny sky a warm gentle breeze
Central Park in her summer green.

Back through the Marriott's swinging doors
to hit the 5th, 6th, and 7th floors.
WOW what a show to keep in my heart.
I'm so glad I could help
'though I played a small part.

So ANA for your future shows
I sure won't let you down.
If you choose New York - I hope to be there
it IS a wonderful town.

By, RITA JENE

COIN TRIVIA ANSWERS

(questions on page 8)

1. 1933-D Oregon Trail half dollar
2. San Francisco
3. No
4. Brothers
5. San Francisco
6. South Africa
7. $50

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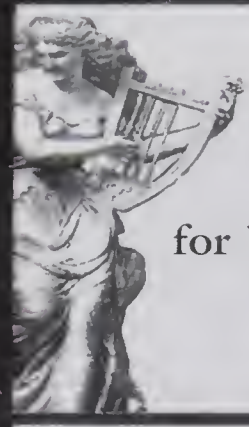

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Why don't Peace Dollars come with Proof Like and Deep Mirror Proof-Like fields as do Morgan dollars?

By Jim Halperin

Good Question! Here's another: Why is it that even uncirculated Peace Dollars often have indistinct lettering and blurred appearing devices?

As coin enthusiasts, we sometimes forget that the Mint priorities must often place quantity above quality. Based on the striking quality of many issues, it seems obvious that Peace Dollar dies were seldom refurbished by polishing. Most Peace Dollars, most notable those struck in Philadelphia, have a very frosty overall appearance, which results from heavily used dies.

To apply mirror-like reflectivity to a coin, the raised portion of the dies must be clean and highly polished. Any imperfection on the die will be transferred to the coin. The minting process causes metal from the planchet to move across the surface of the die. This friction abrades the die. As additional coins are produced, the mirror surfaces will eventually disappear, as will any prooflike appearance. Lint or dust on the die causes minute depressions in the surface. Coins struck from rusted dies exhibit raised dots in the fields or among the devices.

Striking pressure is an important factor, too. The planchets of proof coins are struck under enhanced pressure, and each given two or more blows from the press. I've never seen a proof Peace Dollare dated after 1922, and the rare 1921 and 1922 proofs are always matte or satin, never brilliant.

Finally the design of a coin influences its likelihood of acquiring prooflike tendencies. After the difficulties of striking 1921 Peace Dollars in the original high relief design, drastic changes had to be made to lower the height of the devices on the subsequent issues.

Thus, prooflike Peace Dollars are quite scarce. Should you encounter any, chances are that the surfaces have been altered. Sadly, the Peace Dollar exemplifies a problem that collectors must face -- some coins just don't come the way we'd like them.

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